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THAXTON ADDRESSES A.I.E.E.

STAFF MEMBER IS RADIO ANNOUNCER

SPORTS, PATTER AND NEWS

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Guy Thaxton, D&C Chief, addressed the St. Louis Branch of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers at a meeting held on March 15 at the Engineers Club. The subject of his talk was "Rural Electrification Engineering - Past-Present-Future." The assembled members showed their interest in the topic and presentation by the close attention paid the speaker and the many questions asked him.

The talk started with a review of the steps taken in rural electrification before our agency was established and discussed the construction & operation problems faced at that time in bringing electricity to the farmer at a price he could pay. REA then came along and studied the problem with the thought of reducing construction costs through simplification of lines, standardization of equipment, and use of mass production construction methods.

By taking advantage of these savings and experimenting to find the most satisfactory types of construction, it was possible to build lines at a fraction of the cost previously experienced by private power companies. In one year, 125,000 miles of line were completed serving 281,000 rural establishments. The cost per mile ranged from \$700 to \$1000 as compared to average costs of \$1500 to \$2000 per mile which were common prior to REA's inauguration.

The mass production technique, to be successful, had to cope with many variables in field conditions. Ways had to be found to make the methods adaptable to such problems. New techniques were started to more rapidly clear right-of-way, stake, distribute material and place the poles and other equipment correctly.

Equipment costs were reduced by close cooperation between our engineers and those of equipment manufacturers. Some original design was done by REA engineers. Standardization committees were established to reduce the number of construction items to a minimum.

The future depends on cooperation in research, manufacturing, and use of new items and methods.

ANNOUNCER STANTON

Winthrop L. Stanton of the Finance Division's Region One, and member of the FEA quartet, "The Four Kilowatts" has been a staff announcer for Station WTMV of East St. Louis for the past several Sundays. At 7:00 a.m. he signs on the station and gives a five-minute summary of the news. A call to the airport gives him weather information to transmit over the airwaves. Other newscasts are broadcast by him at 9:00 a.m. and 12:00 Noon. He also handles general staff announcing such as church programs, special events, and musical programs both recorded and original. He leaves the air at 1:00 p.m.

FIRST 1944 HIKE

Our hiking club, under the tentative direction of Irleene Lewis, will take their first hike this Sunday, April 2. The trip will be through the Osage Hills, along the Meramec River, and through the Meramec Quarry. This region is hilly and picturesque and should be an ideal setting for the inauguration of this year's activities. The party will meet at Kingshighway and Manchester Blvd. at 1:30 p.m. Bring your own lunches. Facilities for building a fire are available. County bus fare is ten cents.

Those wishing to participate, and there should be plenty of us, kindly contact Miss Lewis. Friends and relatives are more than welcome.

BOWLING STANDINGS AS OF MARCH 25, 1944

WEDNESDAY LEAGUE

Team Name	Won	Lost	Per Cent	Average	High Game	High Set
Five Aces	35	16	.686	660	783	2256
Loan Sharks	32	19	.627	719	855	2433
Managettes	30	21	.588	652	831	2378
Designers	29	22	.569	665	803	2152
Managers	29	22	.569	646	754	2152
Bookies	22	29	.431	592	822	2332
Operettes	19	32	.373	588	804	2242
Crickettes	8	43	.157	553	706	2014

THURSDAY LEAGUE

Legalettes	32	19	.627	666	817	2370
Solicitors	28	23	.549	750	899	2470
Figurettes	28	23	.549	631	850	2276
Administrators	27	24	.529	714	840	2363
Billettes	27	24	.529	626	821	2366
Raters	22	29	.431	717	869	2340

DIDJA KNOW THAT

Hurrah! Hurrah! the second front at last - not over there but over here. Its whereabouts is a military secret and so cannot be divulged but at present the "Wackies" have taken the offensive and from last reports high military authority has sent out peace feelers in an attempt to bring about an armistice. Glendora Beeth who has been taking a rest cure away from the hectic activities of REA is now looking forward to returning with the spring weather, while L. Robinson is now limping back to the daily grind but minus the infection in her tootsie and M. Roth, Info, never expects to be the same after the little bout which she had with spring cleaning - swears from now on it's to be daily dozens by the dozens so come another spring she'll be in condition for that little job - decorators or no decorators being available. For six long years little Zelma Simons has prayed for a baby brother and believe it or not Fred and the stork made a deal and on his wedding anniversary a bouncing baby boy arrived at the Simon menage and just one day ahead of Zelma's 11th birthday. On his way over, the gay old "boid" stopped off at the Howells, of the Finance Howells with a bundle of joy to be called Sandra Louise and Bob says if she does not have red hair he is going to buy her a henna rinse, though from last reports there wasn't anything to rinse - you know they often come that way, Bob. George Bradbury, former Financier, writes from England of the wonderful streams where one could angle but alas most have "private" signs and he is now more afraid of a court martial for poaching than some other misdemeanor. H. Kuchler reports from Granite City that he is right back where he started - doing personnel work for the army - a good battle front at any time or place, while Bill Wise jumped off a troop train to call his former pals in Legal - reported didn't know where he was heading but was on his way. 'Tis reported that the decorations at the USO are truly works of art. They have always been more than superior 'cause Thelma Wilson usually had a hand in them but now that she is employing the technique of our Vets of Foreign Wars they have gone all out. Perc Sachs, Emil Otto, J. Van Hoose and others of that fastidious group have all reached the point of cutting paper dolls. Meet some newcomers - Marcelle Cundiff who will be technical with TSD, Glenn P. Kiff, now with Management and who has been with Soil Conservation, USDA, Mrs. Helen Lutz who will hold forth with the Legalites; Eula Adams, a new D&Cer and Betty Goldschmidt, one of our new messenger lassies. Two TSDers made the news in a big way - J. Schaenzer the Congressional Record while on a speech-making tour and S. Strojny went all out and rolled 197 when he was only trying

for 150. Reunion in Hawaii - the gal-friends' boyfriends got together for a bit of chatter and now W. Frost and Lois Williams are looking forward to grass skirts, anklets and a lei for some of those "less cool" days of a St. L. summer. D&C is very fussy - again call attention to raiding of their payroll without their consent - want Mel Ulteig ("and please spell it with an "l," says C. Sullivan) right back on their roster - so it goes. 'ROUND THE TOWN: Lovely Dov Pitzer dropping in for a call and looking like a breath of spring; V. Kern seen at the pretty wedding of Attorney Margaret Bush to S/Sgt Wilson; Phil Dodge having to do the honors with the Mexican Official after all the Infos fell by the wayside; R. Miller and Lorraine Lauth whipping up a cake in one of the better "jernts" under the critical eyes of the Big Gals; Charlie Moore back home and glad of it; G. Dillion entertaining his office force at the Mayfair with a steak dinner in honor of that Collar Box Ad which we lost to our Uncle's Navy - Lt. (s.g.) Russ Rehm; Eddie West mournfully carrying on in the Doc Room; J. Markland back at the old stand selling apples; L. Pegelow with a grand California sun-tan; C.F. Blickley suffering pre-speech jitters while the office force tries to wangle travel to Wisconsin so they can heckle him; Emanuel Smith enjoying and sharing the big box of candy he received on his birthday; pretty Rose Marie Huston of Legal with her Naval Aviation Cadet - R.M. is flashing a sparkler; Capt. Smith, Legal, flitting back to Washington for a six weeks rest and Ossie Briden wants to know if any of you guys have a jig-saw which you would like to sell. He wants to make some puzzles - is going to cut up all his plans and specifications just to see if he can put them together again. P.S. Ossie is really serious about the jig-saw - so call him on 348.

SPAN is published by the REA Athletic Association for the employees of REA, Ray Stokely, Editor; S. Norton Associate Editor. Signed contributions are welcome and should be sent to Ray Stokely, Room 1159.

FRIDAY LEAGUE - MARCH 25, 1944

Team Name	Won	Lost	Per Cent	Average	High Game	High Set
Auditors	33	18	.647	697	826	2335
Boatmen's Best	31	20	.608	684	800	2225
Adminettes	29	22	.569	603	751	2132
Engineers	27	24	.529	628	777	2238
Amateurettes	23	28	.451	549	751	2192
Cooperettes	21	30	.412	577	814	2157
Ruralettes	21	30	.412	572	719	2060
Constructors	19	32	.373	618	805	2116

MEN

WOMEN

High Average.....	Killion, 164.7
	Bullock, 164.1
High Game	Moore, 229

High Average	Kallemeier, 155
High Game	Reno, 246
High Set	Kallemeier, 581